(*b*) by how much was it reduced; and

(*c*) the immediate cause for such a reduction?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: (*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), these questions do not arise.

Price of Salt.

174 *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state the latest price of salt, at Nagercoil, Trivandrum Adoor, Pathanamthitta, Quilon, Kottayam and Parur?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: A *statement is appended.

Graduate Teachers in the Education Department.

175 *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of graduate teachers recruited to the Education Department prior to the date of standardisation who did not get the benefits of the pre-standardisation scale of pay;

(*b*) the number of such teachers who held substantive posts and had put in an aggregate acting service in acting vacancies of one year on the date of the standardisation G. O.; and

(*c*) the number of such teachers without substantive posts and who had put in an aggregate acting service of three years before the date of the standardisation G. O.?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: (*a*) 51

(*b*) 10.

(*c*) 9.

Compulsory Primary education in the State.

176 *MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government have before them any scheme for the introduction of compulsory primary education in the State?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: No.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether Government are aware that the introduction of compulsory primary education is very necessary?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Government are fully aware of it.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Then, may I know why no steps were taken in that direction?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The question was fully considered on a former occassion and the Government gave the House an assurance that a scheme leading to cent per cent literacy would be considered and adopted.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether Government have any scheme at present for effecting this?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Government are now pursuing a policy of expansion of primary and adult education.

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* *Vide* Appendix IX, page.

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MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : May I know what policy Government is now adopting ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : Encouraging and helping aided schools and opening new schools wherever there is a demand for them.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : What is the difficulty that stands in the way of Government introducing compulsory primary education at present ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : Inadequacy of funds.

Sale of Toddy.

177 *MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Assembly has passed a resolution prohibiting sale of toddy after 6 P. M. and whether the Government have adopted the same ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to enforce the same ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN : (*a*) The Assembly has passed the resolution.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : May I know the date on which the resolution was passed ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN : I claim notice.

Fare on the Trivandrum-Quilon line of the Transport Department.

178 *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) when the fare on the Trivandrum-Quilon line of the Transport Department was increased ;

(*b*) by how much was the increase ; and

(*c*) what was the immediate necessity for such an increase ?

MR. K. SANKARAN : (*a*) and (*b*). The fare was not increased; but the concessional rate of Chs. 14 was stopped with effect from 15-11-1939 and the original rate of Chs. 21 was restored.

(*c*) The concession was stopped as the railway fare was increased and also as the cost of fuel, engine oil and spare parts went up on account of the war.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Sir, may I know the fare on the Trivandrum-Quilon line before the Government Transport Service was introduced ?

MR. K. SANKARAN : I think it was seven annas.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDHANAN NAIR : May I know whether the fare of 21 chakrams now introduced is not a great increase ?

MR. K. SANKARAN : Seven annas was fixed by the owner of a private service.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : May I know whether the private owners were not making a profit when the fare was only seven annas ?

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